



Report to the Auburn City Council

Action Item

Agenda Item No.

City Manager's Approval

To: Mayor and City Council
From: Mike Holmes, Mayor
Date: September 14, 2009
Subject: Possible Closure of Lake Clementine

The Issue

Shall the City Council provide input on the possible closure of Lake Clementine?

Conclusion and Recommendation

Discuss and provide direction to staff.

Background

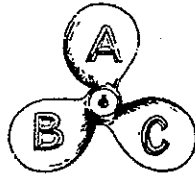
Recently, the City Council received information concerning the possible closure of Lake Clementine due to budgetary constraints. Attached is a packet of information from the Auburn Boat Club requesting the Council's input and support on keeping the facility open. It is recommended that the City Council discuss this issue and direct staff to provide any necessary assistance.

Fiscal Impact

None.

Attachments

Information from the Auburn Boat Club



AUBURN BOAT CLUB, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 3233
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95604

August 24, 2009

Robert Richardson
Auburn City Manager
1225 Lincoln Way
Auburn, CA 95603

RE: North Fork Dam/Lake Clementine

Dear Mr. Richardson,

The Auburn Boat Club (ABC) was just notified last week that Upper and Lower Lake Clementine are at risk of closure to all recreating public.

Given the current budget constraints the State of California is facing, ABC completely understands the need for user fees to be increased. In fact, ABC is supportive of an increase in user fees; however we are getting mixed messages on the need for an increase in user fees vs closing Lake Clementine to public use.

My understanding is that State Parks must make a final decision by October 1, 2009 regarding the possible closure of Lake Clementine to all public use.

Please review the attached documents which include correspondence from March 31, 2009 to August 7, 2009 between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and State Parks. Also attached are copies of letters sent to the above-mentioned agencies in response to the possible closure of Lake Clementine to public use.

We would appreciate your input and support regarding this important public concern.

Sincerely,

John Brun
President, Auburn Boat Club
(530) 269-2044
brun@calwisp.com

Attachments



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SACRAMENTO DISTRICT
1325 J STREET
SACRAMENTO CA 95814-2922

Construction-Operations Division

MAR 31 2009

Michael R. Finnegan
Area Manager
US Bureau of Reclamation
7794 Folsom Dam Road
Folsom, CA 95630-1799

SUBJECT: North Fork Dam/Lake Clementine Recreation Funding Request

Dear Mr. Finnegan,

I wanted to provide you an update on the status of your request for funding on Lake Clementine. As you are aware, the US Army Corps of Engineers has been diligently working with the US Bureau of Reclamation and California State Parks representatives towards finding a solution for continued operations at Lake Clementine.

Last week, we finally received the amount we will be allocated for FY09. As you are probably aware, any work we do on North Fork Dam (i.e. dam inspections or maintenance) is funded through Englebright Lake. We have now been able to look at Englebright's funding with the intent to provide some of that funding for operations at Lake Clementine. Regrettably, we do not have any additional funding available, and in fact will be short of funding as our allocation for Englebright Lake was cut and is lower than what we received last year.

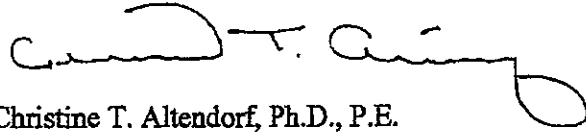
We have sent a letter to Headquarters USACE (HQUSACE) to request additional funding for Lake Clementine with a response due NLT April 10th, 2009. I have provided a copy of that letter along with this correspondence for your information. We have already answered many questions from HQUSACE and hope to have a favorable outcome. If the US Army Corps of Engineers cannot find additional funding, we will need to meet to determine the way ahead.

Our shared desire is to continue to have recreation provided at North Fork Dam/Lake Clementine for the general public. We appreciate that the US Bureau of Reclamation has done so since 1979, and we will continue to work toward a solution that allows for that action.

If we are unable to find an alternate solution, we are prepared to work with both the US Bureau of Reclamation and the State to create a closure plan that will work for all agencies. If the US Bureau of Reclamation does turn back the operation of these lands to the Corps, the US Bureau of Reclamation will need to remove all property and restore the premises to a satisfactory condition per our agreement.

I hope that we are able to find a satisfactory solution to this issue. My point of contact is Ms. Jill Swett and she may be reached at (916) 557-5285. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine T. Altendorf". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Christine T. Altendorf, Ph.D., P.E.
Deputy for Project Management



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Central California Area Office
7794 Folsom Dam Road
Folsom, California 95630-1799

IN REPLY REFER TO:

CC-412
LND-6.00

JUN 9 2009

Colonel Thomas C. Chapman
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District
District Engineer
1325 J Street
Sacramento, California 95814-2922

Subject: North Fork Dam Project Recreation Management

Dear Colonel Chapman:

This is in response to your letter dated April 20, 2009. As you are aware, the North Fork Dam Project (Lake Clementine) is located within the Bureau of Reclamation's Auburn Dam and Reservoir Project Area and Reclamation currently provides funding for recreation management of Lake Clementine under DOA Permit No. DACW05-99-536 (Permit) which has expired.

Since last October we have had numerous discussions between our agencies to discuss funding assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and have formally requested funding from USACE to help manage its property by letter dated December 29, 2008. USACE has informed Reclamation that the USACE Fiscal Year 2009 budget does not provide funds for management of Lake Clementine and that current USACE policy is to close recreation areas returned from non-Corps operators "unless they may be operated at no additional cost to USACE".

To avoid untimely disruption in recreation operations, Reclamation is prepared to extend the previous Permit arrangement through the end of Fiscal Year 2009. This includes funding the California Department of Parks and Recreation to continue oversight during that period. In the meantime, we request your support in working with Reclamation to explore alternatives for future recreation operation and use of Lake Clementine.

If you have any further questions or need additional information please contact Mr. Walter Clevenger, Auburn Dam and Reservoir Project Lands Resource Manager, at 916-989-7173 or by email at wclevenger@mp.usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL R. FINNEGAN

Michael R. Finnegan
Area Manager

WBR:WClevenger:Sanchez:4/29/09:916-989-7173

R:\Public\TYPING\Clevenger\Lake Clementine Funding response



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Central California Area Office
7794 Folsom Dam Road
Folsom, California 95630-1799

IN REPLY REFER TO:

CC-412
LND-8.0

AUG 07 2009

Mr. Scott Nakaji
Department of Parks and Recreation
Gold Fields District
7806 Folsom – Auburn Road
Folsom, California 95630

Subject: Request that California Department of Parks and Recreation Maximize User Fees for Auburn State recreation Area.

Dear Mr. Nakaji:

This letter is to request that California Department of Parks and Recreation maximize user fees for the Auburn Dam and Reservoir Project Lands area managed by State Parks, also known as the Auburn State Recreation Area, in order to help offset operational costs.

These fees, at a minimum, should be set at the same level or higher as fees at other similar State Parks units such as Folsom Lake State Recreation Area and should be collected at all public use areas where it is feasible to do so.

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any further questions please contact Mr. Walter Clevenger, Auburn Dam and Reservoir Project Lands Resource Manager, at 916-989-7173 or by email at wclevenger@usbr.gov.

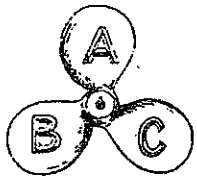
Sincerely,

RICHARD M. JOHNSON

Michael R. Finnegan
Area Manager

Enclosure

WBR:WClevenger:Simmons:9/15/09:916-989-7173
R:\Public\TYPING\ClevengerASRA BOR fee letter draft



AUBURN BOAT CLUB, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 3233
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95604

August 23, 2009

Ms. Ruth Coleman
Director, California Department of Parks & Recreation
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 94296-0001

RE: North Fork Dam/Lake Clementine

Dear Ms. Coleman,

I am writing to you on behalf of all the recreating public that enjoys lower and upper Lake Clementine. The Auburn Boat Club (ABC) has owned and managed the docks and fuel concession at lower Lake Clementine since the early 1950's. The ABC also employs a Marina host during the boating season.

Given the current budget constraints the state of California is facing, ABC completely understands the need for user fees to be increased. In fact, ABC is supportive of an increase in user fees; however we are getting mixed messages on the need for an increase in fees vs. closing Lake Clementine to public use.

ABC has been told that Upper and Lower Lake Clementine will be closed to all public use and that the docks and fuel system are to be removed. Can you please provide absolute clarification on the status of Lake Clementine? My understanding is that State Parks must make a final decision by October 1, 2009. Therefore, can you please respond to my request for clarification, in writing, by September 4, 2009?

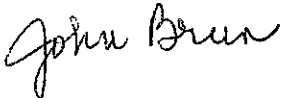
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3/31/09 To: Michael Finnegan, BOR
6/2/09 To: Col. Thomas Chapman, Army Corp
8/7/09 To: Scott Nakaji, State Parks

From: Christine Altendorf, Army Corp
From: Michael Finnegan
From: Michael Finnegan

Thank you for giving my request your attention. If there is any additional information I can provide to you, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

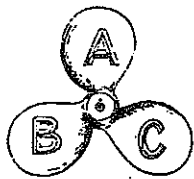
Sincerely,



John Brun
President, Auburn Boat Club

Attachments

cc: Congressman McClintock
Senator Sam Aanestad
Senator Dave Cox
Assemblyman Ted Gaines
Placer County Board of Supervisors
Sheriff Ed Bonner
Auburn City Council
✓ Bob Richardson, Auburn City Manager
Valerie Harris, Auburn Police Chief
Gray Allen, Chairman of Placer County Water Agency and Board Members
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Bruce Cosgrove, CEO Auburn Chamber of Commerce
Jerry Desmond, Recreational Boaters of California



AUBURN BOAT CLUB, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 3233
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95604

August 23, 2009

Scott Nakaji, District Superintendent
California State Parks-Gold Fields District
7860 Folsom Auburn Road
Folsom, CA 95630

RE: North Fork Dam/Lake Clementine

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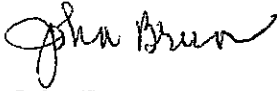
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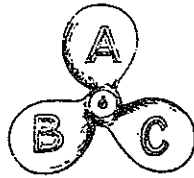
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President, Auburn Boat Club

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POST OFFICE BOX 3233
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95604

August 23, 2009

Michael Finnegan, Area Director
Bureau of Reclamation Mid Pacific Region
7794 Folsom Dam Road
Folsom, CA 95630-1799

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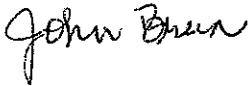
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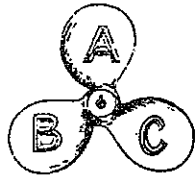
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AUBURN BOAT CLUB, INC.

POST OFFICE BOX 3233
AUBURN, CALIFORNIA 95604

August 23, 2009

Colonel Thomas C. Chapman
U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Sacramento District
District Engineer
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95841-2922

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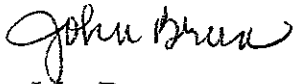
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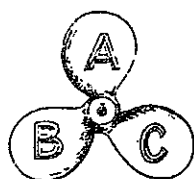
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U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

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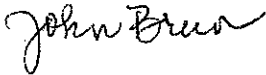
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